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Monday, May 15, 1837.

George R. PORTER, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

William Blake, Esq;
B. F. Duppa, Esq ;
and Stevens Wade Henslow, Esq.,
were formally admitted according to the rules of the Society.

The two following gentlemen were proposed as Fellows, and their names were ordered to be suspended in the meeting room, in accordance with the regulations.

John Clerk, Esq., Assurance Office, Aberdeen ;
John C. W. Lever, Esq., Bridge House-place, Southwark.

A Paper prepared by Bisset Hawkins, Esq., M.D., on the state of Prostitution in the city of Berlin, and on the regulations of the Prussian government relating to this subject, was briefly described and laid upon the Table.

A Paper was read, prepared by R. W. Rawson, Esq., from documents collected by a Committee, formed from the Central Education Society, for the purpose of enquiring into the state of the poor in the Parish of St. Mary-le-bone. It related wholly to the inhabitants of Callmel Buildings.

It was stated that the Committee which was appointed at a public meeting, on the 15th of February, to enquire into the state of the poor in the Parish of St. Mary-le-bone, had completed its investigation in several of the most wretched and notorious localities in the Parish.

This inquiry was first suggested, and an experiment was made, by the Central Society of Education with a view of obtaining an account of the mode in which children of the poor of the metropolis are raised and educated. The results were of such interest,

that it appeared desirable to extend the inquiry throughout the whole parish, and to add several other particulars bearing upon the general social condition of the families.

The present Report related wholly to Callmel Buildings; stating that, the number of houses is 26; of rooms 231; of which 199 are at present occupied. The average number of rooms in a house is nearly 9.

The number of inhabitants 882, consisting of
 163 married couples with 345 children;
 66 widowers or widows with 94 do.
 21 single individuals, male;
 30 female;

or 280 families.

These, with very few exceptions, are Irish, and Roman Catholics.

The average number of persons in each house is 34; the least number 22, the greatest 48.

The average number in each room is $4\frac{1}{2}$. The average size of the rooms, 11ft. 8in., by 10ft. 6in. In one room, however, there are no less than 13 individuals.

Of 204 families with children, 116 occupy one room, while 76 occupy only part of one. Of 76 individuals, 61 occupy only part of a room.

Of 199 rooms 50 are occupied by more than one family.

A difference is found in this respect between the English and Irish families. Almost all the former have a separate room; the latter herd more together. As many as four families and 1 single person live in one room, in these buildings.

This habit of the Irish gives them great advantage with respect to rent. Several families receive more from the persons

they admit into their rooms, than they pay to their landlord. One couple paying 3*s.* per week, receives in this manner no less than 9*s.* The tenants of the 50 rooms occupied by more than one family, pay to their landlords an aggregate of 7*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*, weekly; they receive from their sub-tenants 6*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*

The average weekly rent paid for a room to the landlord, is 2*s.* 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*, the average paid by sub-tenants, 2*s.* 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*; of 249 families, 74 pay 3*s.* and upwards, as high as 5*s.*, but of these, 31 receive almost the whole back from their sub-tenants; 91 pay from 2*s.* to 3*s.*, and 84 under 2*s.* The tenants always, and the sub-tenants frequently, have to find their own furniture.

14 Houses are rented entire from the owner by single families, who occupy one or two rooms, and underlet the remainder. The remainder are rented in rooms. The rent of 8 is 20*l.* per annum each, but 5 are above 30*l.*; of the 280 families, 238 live in close and confined apartments, 134 are clean and healthy, 146 dirty. 118 have sufficient cupboards and shelves, (an important consideration in respect to cleanliness,) 162 have not. It is a gratifying fact that of 440 children, only 23 are unhealthy or cripples.

In 156 families the parents sleep in the same room with their children; and in 132 the youths and children of both sexes and all ages sleep together in one room. Of 436 heads of families, 236 can neither read nor write. Of 439 children, 251 can neither read nor write; but, of the whole number, 117 are under 5 years of age, therefore there remains 134 above that age wholly uneducated. 47 children under 8 years of age go to school; 145, or three-fourths of the whole number, do not. Of children above 8, 64 go to school, of those between 8 and 16, 114 do not. Of 439, 348, or nearly 80 per cent. can repeat the Lord's Prayer. This proportion, it is to be feared, will be found much smaller among the English Protestants; 65 families have books, principally Catholic religious works; 111 have no books.

The average weekly payments for schooling is 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* Among the English in another neighbourhood it is only 2*d.*

The number of children paid for by the parents is 73, and 44

are taught gratis. There is a day school in the buildings with 50 scholars. This is held in a single room, which is occupied by the schoolmaster, his wife, and six children. The mode in which the master is paid, is curious:—A club, consisting of the parents and other individuals, meet on Saturday evenings, when the parties subscribe from 6*d.* to 1*s.* each; a portion of which the master is expected to expend in treating the parties. The number of children being brought up in some occupation is only 47; the number not brought up to any, 393.

A large portion of the families are reported to bear a good character in the neighbourhood; many have been found in a distressed state, but less wretchedness exists among the Irish than the English poor, from the greater readiness of the former to assist one another, and the small quantity and cheap quality of the food which they consume.

The Committee had obtained several other particulars, but of less interest, yet all indicative of the condition of the families.

The inquiry into several streets occupied solely by English, has been completed, but abstracts have not yet been made.

The next Paper read was by T. R. Edmonds, Esq.

ON THE MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATIONS OF ENGLAND AND SWEDEN, THROUGHOUT 75 YEARS, ENDING WITH 1830.

The following are some of the principal remarks it contained:

In the majority of European nations, the annual births amount to 1 in 30, and the annual deaths to 1 in 40 of the total populations, which will yield an average increase of about 9 per cent. every 10 years. The highest rate of births observed in any nation, has been about 1 in 23; the lowest rate, about 1 in 33. The highest rate of deaths observed, has been about 1 in 30; the lowest rate (in England) 1 in 50 of the total population. The highest rate of increase of population ever observed, is that of the United States of North America; next

to which is that of the population of England. In the United States, the increase for a long period has been at the rate of 32 per cent. every 10 years, independently of the gain from migration. The white population and the slave population have increased at the same high rate. In England, during a recent period, the rate of increase has been 16 per cent. every 10 years, which is just twice as great as the average rate of increase in other European countries.

The high rate of increase in England, compared with that in the rest of Europe, has not been derived from a higher average of births, but from a lower average of deaths. The higher rate of increase of the American population, is probably the consequence of a rate of mortality as low as that of England, combined with a higher proportion of births, say 1 in 23. The rate of births among the slave population of the United States cannot be estimated at less than 1 in 23 annually; the rate of births among the slave population of the West Indies at the same time, has not exceeded 1 in 40. The *decrease* of the black population of the West Indies, is mainly attributable to a diminution of births, for, the annual mortality, 1 in 36, has been frequently observed, and now exists in several increasing European populations.

It is a remarkable fact, which has never yet been explained, that a very great increase in the deaths, for a short period, is always accompanied by a great diminution in the births at the same period. The most marked instances are found in Sweden during the 2 years 1772-73, and during the 5 years 1806-10; in Belgium during the year 1817, and in France during the year 1832 (the year of Cholera). The explanation of this fact, the Author believed to consist solely in an increase of deaths, including *fetal* deaths or miscarriages. From observations of Dr. Granville, on women of Lying-in-Charities of London, it appears, that one in *three* of all conceptions terminates in miscarriage. Since the mortality of infants in large towns is double of that prevailing in the country at large, it may be inferred as highly probable, that a similar relation exists between the proportions of miscarriages; and

consequently, that in an entire nation, one out of every *six* conceptions terminates in miscarriage, in years of ordinary mortality.

In Sweden and in England, the proportions of marriages, births and deaths, have been progressively diminishing,—since the year 1790 in the case of Sweden, and since the year 1780, in the case of England. In England the progressive diminution of the mortality, during the four decennial periods from 1780 to 1820 was extremely regular. Out of a constant population of 1,000, the annual deaths at the four decennial periods ending with 1790, 1800, 1810 and 1820, were 27, 25, 22, and 20, respectively. The introduction of *vaccination* in 1800 produced no interruption in the course of diminution then in progress. It can hardly be denied that the deaths from small-pox have been diminished by vaccination, but it may be doubted whether the deaths from other diseases have not been proportionally increased. The diminution in the aggregate mortality of the English nation, has been derived wholly from the diminution of the mortality of children.

In Sweden, during three successive periods of 25 years, 1756-80, 1781-1805, 1806-30, the mean annual rate of *increase* was constant, and equal to 75 for every 10,000 of population, or 8 per cent. every 10 years. In England, the mean annual increase on 10,000, varied, from 70 in the first 25 years, to 112 in the next 25 years, and to 142 in the last 25 years. The rate of increase of the English population was at a maximum during the 10 years 1811-20, when the rate of mortality was at a minimum. In France, for a population of 10,000, the mean annual increase was only 55 ; in Belgium 87.

In the majority of European nations, the disturbing effect of migration is scarcely sensible ; Ireland is probably the only exception.

North America gains from migration just what Great Britain and Ireland together lose from migration. The average gain to North America, previous to 1820, is stated not to have ex-

ceeded 10,000 annually; but since that year, the numbers migrating to the Canadas and the United States, have greatly increased. During the five years 1825-29, North America received from Great Britain and Ireland 23,047 people annually; during the five years 1830-34 the average number was 73,442 annually. During the 4 years 1829-32 the mean number of immigrants arriving annually at New York and Quebec was 57,053, of which there were from England and Wales 23,851, from Ireland 27,241, and from Scotland 5,961. We may say then of England and Wales alone, that the annual loss from emigration was 4,000 previous to 1820, 9,000 at the year 1827, and 30,000 at the year 1832. The mean annual increase of the population of England and Wales from 1820 to 1830 was 180,000. Taking the mean annual number of emigrants at this period to have been 8,000, it will form less than the 22nd part of the excess of births over deaths. The mean number of births at the same period having been not less than 450,000 annually, the loss from emigration was no more than the 55th part of this number. During the 10 years 1820 to 1830 the population of England and Wales must have been diminishing from migration, if the number of immigrants from Ireland did not amount to 8,000 annually.

Another source of decrease of the population of England, is the maintenance of the Army and Navy in foreign countries, which requires a large number of recruits to supply the vacancies by deaths. A force of 30,000 men in the East Indies, 7,000 in the West Indies, and 13,000 in the Ionian Isles, Canada, &c., will suffer 3,000 yearly deaths in time of peace. Adding to which, 1,000 yearly deaths from shipwreck, we shall have 4,000 as the number of soldiers and sailors quitting England every year, and never returning. If this number be added to the 8,000 professed emigrants from England previously determined, we shall have the number 12,000 to represent the average annual loss by emigration during the 10 years 1821-30. Consequently, the balance of migration will have been against England, if it have not been receiving 12,000 people every year from Ireland.

There exist materials which satisfactorily show that the registered births in England ought to be increased 26 per cent., in order to obtain the true number of births. From the census of 1821, it is found that there were living of females under the age of five years, at the beginning of that year, 879,590. These are manifestly the survivors of the numbers born during the five years 1816-20, which, according to the registers, are stated to have been 815,350. That is to say, we have the apparent absurdity of the survivors exceeding in number the original stock. By means of the table of mortality deduced from the English observation for females, it may be calculated that 100 survivors under the age of five years, proceeded from $117\frac{1}{2}$ births in the preceding 5 years. Consequently, the enumerated population of 879,590 proceeded from 1,034,800 births during the five years 1816-20, which number is 27 per cent. greater than 815,350, the stated registered births.

The true increase of the English population is represented by the difference between the registered births increased 20 per cent., and the registered deaths increased 10 per cent.

The paper contained numerous other observations of great interest to the philosophical statist and physiologist, especially on the proportion of births and deaths, and of births and marriages; and the proportion of annual deaths, births and marriages to the total population.

The paper was accompanied by the following series of 9 tables drawn up by Mr. Edmonds.

TABLE 1.—Showing the *Movement* of the population of SWEDEN and FINLAND, during each of 16 quinquennial periods, from 1750 to 1830.

TABLE 2.—Showing the same for ENGLAND and WALES. The number of births, deaths and marriages, during successive periods of five years, being collectively stated;—and the number of the population being stated, in sixteen cases, as existing at the beginning or end of each quinquennial period.

TABLE 3.—Showing the Movement of the populations of FRANCE and of Belgium, during periods of 17 and 20 years, respectively.

TABLE 4.—Showing for Sweden and for England, during each of sixteen quinquennial intervals, the *rates* of marriages, births, deaths and increase, to the total contemporary population. Also showing the same for France and for Belgium, during less extended periods.

TABLE 5.—Showing the proportions of *Births to Marriages*, and of *Births to Deaths*, as indicated by the preceding Tables,—in Sweden, England, France, and Belgium.

TABLE 6.—Showing the coincidence, in numerous instances, as well for England as Sweden, between the observed and the calculated amounts of the population. The increase of the population, determined from two censuses, being found to differ in an insignificant degree, from the increase calculated from, and represented by, the excess of births over deaths in the intervening period.

TABLE 7.—Showing the population of ENGLAND and WALES, as obtained at each of the four censuses in 1801, 1811, 1821, and 1831,—also showing the proportion of the Army, Navy &c., which have been excluded, as belonging to Ireland and Scotland.

TABLE 8.—Showing the total number of births and deaths which have been *Registered* in England and Wales, during the 30 years 1801-30;—and showing the degree in which they were deficient from the true number of births and deaths.

TABLE 9.—Showing the proportional distribution in six intervals of age, of the female populations of Sweden, of England, and of the United States of North America; and showing that the proportion of females, between the ages of 20 and 35 years, to the total population, is nearly the same in all three countries.